

Serial No.: 09/587,058

**REMARKS**

This is responsive to the Advisory Action dated September 21, 2001. Claim 5 has been amended in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.173(d)(2).

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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Dated: October 3, 2001

Serial No.: 09/587,058

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES**

In the Claims:

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Claim 5. A single disc friction clutch for a motor vehicle, comprising:

a clutch housing;

a single clutch disc being configured to be mounted on a transmission input shaft

having a longitudinal axis;

said single clutch disc being configured to be axially movable along the

longitudinal axis of a transmission input shaft;

a solid pressure plate having a surface;

at least one friction lining mounted on said clutch disc; said at least one friction

lining being configured to be disposed between said pressure plate and a flywheel;

said pressure plate being configured and disposed to engage and disengage said

clutch disc with a flywheel; said pressure plate being configured and disposed to be axially

movable along the longitudinal axis of a transmission input shaft;

a membrane spring; said membrane spring being disposed between said clutch

housing and said pressure plate and having on one axial side a radially extending surface facing

said pressure plate;

said membrane spring being configured and disposed to bias said pressure plate;

a thermal insulating member supported on said surface of said pressure plate and

disposed between said pressure plate and said membrane spring so that the insulating member

is only in axial contact with said radially extending surface of said membrane spring;

11

Serial No.: 09/587,058

said thermal insulating member being configured to minimize the contact  
between said thermal insulating member and said membrane spring;

said insulating member being a single, one-piece element and extending  
circumferentially about said pressure plate and having a first resistance to thermal conductivity  
and said membrane spring has a second resistance to thermal conductivity, and wherein said  
first resistance to thermal conductivity is higher than said second resistance;

said thermal insulating member being rigid and comprising a metal;

said metal of said insulating member being configured to minimize heat  
conduction from said pressure plate to said membrane spring.

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